

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /122 W

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R 051431 Z JUL 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2016

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0430

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, MZ

SUBJ: COMMUNIQUE SUMMARIZING OPERATION OF PORTUGUESE ARMED
FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1973

REF: (A) L. M. 76, JAN 30; (B) A-19, FEB 9; (C) L. M. 247,
APR 13 (NOTAL); (D) L. M. A-55, APR 20 (NOTAL)

1. PRESS OF JULY 4 CARRIES MOZAMBIQUE ARMED FORCES HIGH COMMAND
COMMUNIQUE NO. 18/73, DATED JULY 3, SUMMARIZING MILITARY
ACTION FROM JAN. 1, 1971 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1973.

2. FIGURES FOR 1971 AND 1972 HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPORTED
IN REFS. A AND B, EXCEPT THOSE UNDER HEADING " PEOPLE LIBER-
ATED FROM ENEMY CONTROL" WHICH REPORTED BELOW.

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EM FIGURES FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS 1973 FOLLOW:

A. ACTIVITIES OF PORTUGUESE FORCES INCLUDED: LAND OPERATIONS - 4,202; AIR MISSIONS - 8,697; NAVAL MISSIONS - 381; OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED BY AIR - 29,614; CARGO TRANSPORTED BY AIR - 1,056 TONS; FLIGHT HOURS FOR AERIAL LOUDSPEAKERS - 963; PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED BY AIR - 2,150,000.

B. RESULTS OBTAINED FROM PORTUGUESE ACTION INCLUDED: ENEMY REFUGES DESTROYED - 588; WEAPONS CAPTURED - 452; FRELIMO PERSONNEL KILLED OR SERIOUSLY WOUNDED - 823; FRELIMO PERSONNEL CAPTURED OR SURRENDERED - 82; FRELIMO LEADERS CAPTURED OR SURRENDERED - 3; TOTAL FRELIMO LOSSES - 908; PERSONS LIBERATED FROM ENEMY CONTROL: 1971 - 11,267; 1972 - MORE THAN 12,000; 1973 - 4,302.

COMMENT: ABOVE FIGURES COMPARED WITH THOSE OF PREVIOUS TWO YEARS SHOW INCREASED RATE OF PORTUGUESE LAND, SEA, AND AIR OPERATIONS WITH CORRESPONDING GAIN IN LOSSES INFLICTED ON GUERRILLAS. HOWEVER, DROP IN NUMBER OF FRELIMO ELEMENTS CAPTURED OR SURRENDERED MAY SIGNIFY HARDENING OF FRELIMO MORALE, OR DECREASING EFFECTIVENESS OF PORTUGUESE PSYCHOLOGICAL ACTION, OR SIMPLY THAT THERE NOT AS MANY POTENTIAL DEFECTORS LEFT IN FRELIMO RANKS.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LOUREN00430
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730765/aaaajynh.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 LOURENCO MARQUES 7673 STATE A-19, 73 LOURENCO MARQUES 24773 LOURENCO MARQUES A-55
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <25-Oct-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980311
Subject: COMMUNIQUE SUMMARIZING OPERATION OF PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS
OF 1973
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, MZ
To: STATE INFO ADDIS ABABA
BLANTYRE
DAR ES SALAAM
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

